

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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KANSAS MAN SENTENCED FOR INCOME TAX EVASION

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Basehor, Kan., man was sentenced in federal court today for income tax evasion.

Mark A. Fronce, 41, of Basehor, Kan., was sentenced in federal court by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this afternoon to one year and three months in federal prison without parole. He also was ordered to pay a \$2,000 fine. Additionally, he is being required to pay \$434,522 in taxes, including penalties and interest, Graves said.

On June 26, 2003, **Fronce** waived his right to a grand jury indictment and pleaded guilty to a federal information charging him with one count of tax evasion. By pleading guilty, **Fronce** admitted that he had taxable income of approximately \$565,806 in 1997, and should have paid \$235,486 in taxes. Instead, Graves said, **Fronce** did not file a tax return, and attempted to conceal his true income by diverting his income to "trust" bank accounts that were used for his benefit.

Law enforcement discovered **Fronce's** tax evasion after the defendant spent nearly \$80,000 in one year on jewelry at Porrello and Sandridge Jewelers but had not filed a tax return.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States
Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow